

Remarks

Support for new claim 8 is found in original claims 1 and 5.

It is noted that an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed with the above-noted application and it is requested that the Examiner issue an appropriate initialed PTO-1449 form in response to this IDS.

Unity of Invention Requirement

The claims of the present application have been subjected to a Unity of Invention Requirement as follows:

Group I - Claims 1-4, directed to a molded article;

Group II - Claims 5-7, directed to a method of producing a molded article.

It is requested that the Unity of Invention Requirement be withdrawn since: (1) unity was found to exist during the international stage of the present application; and (2) unity exists between the claims of Groups I and II since both of these groups of claims share the special technical feature regarding compression-molding and baking a polytetrafluoroethylene powder.

Election Responding to Requirement

In response to the Unity of Invention Requirement, Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, i.e. claims 1-4, with traverse.

It is requested that the Patent Examiner reconsider and withdraw the Unity of Invention Requirement.

If any questions remain regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle, in the Washington metropolitan area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

Andrew D. Meikle, #32,868

ADM/csm
0020-4834P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000